

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Daniel De Vos (Reg. No. 37,813) on 15 April 2010.
3. The following claims have been amended:
 - a. Claim 10:
 - i. Line 1, delete before "wherein" -- 4 --.
 - b. Claim 27:
 - i. Line 1, replace " 26" with -- 24 --.
 - c. Claim 29:
 - i. Line 3, delete before "N" -- a --;
 - ii. Line 3, insert before "N" -- an --.
 - d. Claim 31:
 - i. Line 3, delete after "M>1" -- [space] --.
 - e. Claim 41: Canceled
 - f. Claim 42:
 - i. Line 2, replace "stored" with --store --.

Reasons for Allowance

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Interpreting the claims in light of the specification, Examiner finds the claimed invention is patentably distinct from the prior art of record. The prior art does not express teach or render obvious the invention as recited in independent claims 1, 11, 24, 29, 36 and 39.

Kirk (US 5,875,464) teaches partitioning a cache into a shared partition and a group of private partitions. Each task can make use of the shared partition. Private partitions are allocated to tasks and a private partition can only be accessed by the task that owns it.

Blumrich (US 6,493,800) teaches partitioning of a shared cache. Partitions compete for storage, and the portion of the cache occupied by any given partition varies dynamically.

Aglietti *et al.* (US 6,205,519) teaches least recently used cache replacement in for a partitioned cache. The cache is divided into a set of partitions, each of which is allocated to a particular thread. When a thread causes a cache miss, a least recently used (LRU) replacement line is selected from a partition allocated to the thread causing

the cache miss. An LRU algorithm compares only age bits of data lines allocated to the thread causing the cache miss to find the oldest data line for replacement.

The feature of “for an information item associated with [a] first thread, examining for a selected set a history of least recently used ways until one is found that is” available to the first thread “and storing the information item within the found way”, when taken in the context of the claims as a whole, were not uncovered in the prior art teachings.

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to BRIAN CHEW whose telephone number is (571)270-5571. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, 8:00AM-5:00PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Meng-Ai An can be reached on (571)272-3756. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2195

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Meng-Ai An/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2195

/B. C./
Examiner, Art Unit 2195